

The State Bar of California

2001 PRESIDENT'S PRO BONO SERVICE AWARDS

AWARD GUIDELINES

The President's Pro Bono Service Awards were established in 1983 by the State Bar Board of Governors. The awards recognize California attorneys who have provided or enabled the direct provision of legal services to poor persons or to organizations whose primary purpose is to provide legal services to the poor, free-of-charge, without expectation of compensation from the client. A nominee may be a lawyer, law firm, or team of lawyers, depending on the category. Nominators may make more than one nomination for an award. A separate form is required for each nomination. (An online version of the nomination form is also available for downloading on the State Bar's web site, www.calbar.org.)

AWARD CATEGORIES

Awards may be given to one recipient in each of the following eight categories:

- ❖ **Corporate:** An individual attorney or team of attorneys employed by the corporation.
- ❖ **Government:** An individual attorney or team of attorneys employed by a local, state or federal government agency.
- ❖ **Retired:** A lawyer enrolled in the State Bar Emeritus Attorney Pro Bono Program, retired from the active practice of law or who took time off from active practice and performed pro bono work exclusively.
- ❖ **Recently Admitted:** An individual attorney in his or her first four years of practice (please note that this category is distinguished from the Jack Berman Award of Achievement sponsored by the California Young Lawyers Association which honors a young lawyer who has provided outstanding service to the legal profession and public, and dedication to issues of concern to new and young lawyers).
- ❖ **Large Law Firm:** A law firm of 100 attorneys or more in California. May include an individual attorney or team of attorneys employed by the firm.
- ❖ **Medium Law Firm:** A law firm with 11 to 99 or more in California. May include an individual attorney or team of attorneys employed by the firm.
- ❖ **Small Law Firm:** A law firm with 2 to 10 attorneys in California. May include an individual attorney or team of attorneys employed by the firm.
- ❖ **Solo Practitioner:** Individual attorney in his or her own practice.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Award recipients shall be lawyers who provided pro bono legal services from January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000 and:

1. are admitted to practice in California;
2. were not employed on a full-time basis, during the period when the pro bono work was done, by an organization that has as its primary purpose the provision of free legal services to the poor (as defined by current federal poverty guidelines) unless the legal services staff attorney provided the pro bono work outside the scope of his/her employment;
3. have voluntarily contributed a significant amount of time, with no expectation of being paid by the client, to providing or enabling the delivery of legal services in civil or criminal matters for a client, client group or charitable organization whose primary purpose is to provide services to the poor and that does not have the resources to pay for services;
4. have made such contribution through organized pro bono programs, including legal services programs, legal aid societies, local bar association-sponsored pro bono programs, lawyer referral services no-fee panels or other organizations whose primary purpose is to serve the poor; and
5. whose voluntarily contributions have resulted in increased access to legal services on the part of the poor.

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED

- ❖ the breadth and impact of the nominee's work
- ❖ the nominee's practice setting
- ❖ the nature of pro bono program through which the work was done
- ❖ evidence of the nominee's continuing commitment to pro bono work
- ❖ the nature of services contributed, such as;
 - ❖ direct advice and representation
 - ❖ service or impact cases
 - ❖ appellate work
 - ❖ pro per clinics
 - ❖ review or supervision of other volunteers' casework
 - ❖ emergency, difficult or unpopular cases
 - ❖ organization of pro bono activities
 - ❖ mobilization of others to do pro bono work
 - ❖ organization of a new project or delivery structure
 - ❖ provision of volunteer lawyer training
 - ❖ client or public education

SELECTION PROCESS

The State Bar Board of Governors will select the award recipients from the award categories listed above. The awards will be presented during the State Bar Annual Meeting in Anaheim, September 6-9, 2001.

Mail the completed nomination form and supporting materials (no faxes accepted) to:

Kate O'Connor, Senior Administrative Assistant
Office of Program Development
State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
415/538-2141

The State Bar of California

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NOMINATION FORM

**COMPLETED NOMINATION FORM AND SUPPORTING MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2001. FAXES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Please refer to the Award Guidelines before completing the nomination form. Type or print all information clearly and answer all questions as thoroughly as possible.

Name of attorney, law firm, project team or team of lawyers_____

If nominee is a law firm, project team or case team, please provide the name of a representative who will be responsible for communications between State Bar staff and the nominee._____

Employing firm or organization_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

Phone_____ Fax_____ Email_____

Select one award category only:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate | <input type="checkbox"/> Recently Admitted | <input type="checkbox"/> Large Law Firm | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Law Firm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium Law Firm | <input type="checkbox"/> Solo Practitioner |

Has the nominee ever been nominated for the President's Pro Bono Service Awards?

- ☐ Yes (please indicate when_____) ☐ No

Please answer the following questions on separate sheets and attach with any supporting materials to this form:

1. Describe the nominee's pro bono work during 2001, including:
 - a. the nature of the legal services provided, dates of service and number of individuals served;
 - b. the organization and/or program through which the nominee volunteered;
 - c. how the work resulted in increased access to legal services for poor people;
 - d. the total number of pro bono hours contributed (if law firm or team of lawyers, indicate hours for associates and partners)
2. Describe the nominee's law practice, including the size of the firm, the firm's practice areas, the firm's pro bono policy (or attach copy) and the individual nominee's principal legal areas of practice;
3. Provide any additional information you wish about the nominee, including a description of the nominee's history of pro bono contributions, hardships or obstacles faced in doing pro bono work, etc.

Nominator:

Name_____

Relationship to Nominee_____

Organization or Firm_____

City_____ Zip Code_____

Phone_____ Fax_____

Email_____

Additional Reference:

Name_____

Relationship to Nominee_____

Organization or Firm_____

City_____ Zip Code_____

Phone_____ Fax_____

Email_____

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